

Appln. No. 10/817,243

Attorney Docket No. 10543-072

## **II. Remarks**

In response to the Advisory Office Action mailed October 15, 2007 please consider the following remarks.

The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In this response, claims 3, 5 and 14 have been canceled, claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 12 have been amended, and claims 1-2, 4, 6-13 and 15-20 are pending and are at issue herein. In view of the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

### **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the continued indication of allowable subject matter. In particular, page 4 of the Office Action states that claims 15-20 are allowed, and claims 2-7, 11, 13 and 14 are allowable if rewritten into independent form. The subject matter of allowable claim 5 has been incorporated into independent claim 1, and claim 14 has been incorporated into independent claim 12. All of the claims are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of all the claims is respectfully requested.

### **CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,338,012 to Brown. As noted above, independent claims 1 and 12 have been amended to include allowable subject matter.

For all these reasons, favorable reconsideration of independent claims 1 and 12, as well as dependent claims 8-10, is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the preceding remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the specification is in order and that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal contact would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Attorney of the Applicants at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

10-26-07  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney/Agent for Applicant